

Amendments to the specification

Please add the following new paragraph to the specification on page 1, line 36, after the first paragraph of priority claims.

The claimed invention, in the field of functional genomics and the characterization of plant genes for the improvement of plants, was made by or on behalf of Mendel Biotechnology, Inc. and Monsanto Corporation as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement, said agreement having been in effect on or before the date the claimed invention was made.

Please replace the entire paragraph at page 7, line 17-20 with the following amended paragraph:

CD-ROM1 is a read-only memory computer-readable compact disc and contains a copy of the Sequence Listing in ASCII text format. The Sequence Listing file in ASCII format is named "MBI0058CIP.ST25.txt", was created on November 12, 2003, and is 740 kilobytes in size. The copies of the Sequence Listing on the CD-ROM disc are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.